ETCETERA

Number 1. March 1971 issue. Cost: 25¢ + 6¢ stamp

Reviews

THE KIRBY BOOKS

I'm sure that National's three new Kirby mags, and the Kirby-drawn Jimmy Olsen, have been, by now, widely, and in most cases, happily accepted. I myself was overjoyed upon hearing of the King's return to DC, but I must sadly admit that I was very disappointed.

None of his mags were up to par in either story or art, in fact Kirby does such a bad Superman that I was not at all surprised to notice ghosts lurking in the pages. The four Jimmy Olsens that I have seen so far have been so-so in all aspects. The cover of the new one looks like improvement is on it's but not too soon for me. Although I'm not being fair; there was one high point -- the return of the Newsboy Legion. I had, when I saw the NL, hoped for the return of the Guardian. Now; forget it!

Forever People is a different sort of mag, a hip FF. Again only a fair job. But FP is as the name implies... it goes on forever...and ever.....

A slightly better book is a combo of Thor and The Silver Surfer called New Gods. The idea is a new set of gods to replace the ones who died (Odin & Co.) but these guys seem to be dying too. The art on the cover of the first ish of this mag is the best

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX

ETCETERA is published monthly. Paul Levitz, Paul Kupperberg, Editors. 25¢ a copy + 6¢ stamp. Subs for up to 6 issues accepted. No stamps needed on subs. 393 East 58 Street, Brooklyn, New York 11203. Ad space available.

WELCOME

TCR is dead. In a few months the comic world will mourn the passing of NEWFANGLES. That leaves fandom without a major, regular newszine.

ETCETERA is here to fill that gap. We need all the help we can get though. Newsleads are appreciated, commentary-type articles, gab are desperately needed. We want to give you six to eight pages each month but we can't manage it alone. We also need art. All contributors will recieve complementary copies of course.

Our function is to bring you news and news related items. This ish is six pages. If we get enough items for number two we will go to eight without any change in price or frequency.

Speaking of frequency we plan to put an issue out once every month, plus occaisonal special issues at con time or the like. If you want to send in an ad or an loc or a contrib. please mail it by the 20th of the month.

Thanks to E. Nelson Bridwell for his kind co-operation. Many news it items in this issue are lifted from NEWFANGLES so to make it up to them I'd like to plug the Gothe Awards. Ballots are available from Don Thompson, 8706 Hendricks Rd, Mentor, Ohio, 44060. All fans are welcome to vote but please send in a ballot soon.

One special request: Please send us Haunted Bookshop articles. We obviously can't visit them all.

Subs are available for:

4 issues: $1

6 issues: $1.50

Ad space is available. Write about rates and etc.(plug)

N E W S

= = = = = = = C O M I N G C O M I C S F O R M A R C H = = = = = = = = = = = = = =

KULL THE CONQUEROR 1. Robert E. Howard's second-string sword and sorcery hero comes alive again in the comics medium. Script by Roy Thomas, layouts by Ross Andru, art by Wally Wood. Proof indeed that the era of sword & sorcery has come.
CONAN THE BARBARIAN 6. The Cimmerian faces "The God In The Bowl!" in a Howard adaptation.
DC SPECIAL 12. Viking Prince headlines this s & s issue compiled from old Brave & Bolds. Also featured are Silent Knight, Robin Hood, and Golden Gladiator.
THE AVENGERS 88 / THE HULK 140. Harlan Ellison, noted sf writer wrote the plot for this very special two-parter. The Hulk goes into another world.
ADVENTURE COMICS 406. Continuing the saga of the sometime-Supergil.
ACTION COMICS 400. An extrodinarily good story is promised for this ish.
ASTONISHING TALES 6. Ka-Zar art by Trimpe. Dr Doom vs The Black Panther.
BATMAN 231. The Ten-Eyed Man returns in this issue.
DAREDEVIL 76. Concluding the saga of the kidnapped diplomats.
DATE WITH DEBBI 15. JERRY LEWIS 124. SCOOTER 33. THREE MOUSKETEERS 7.
DETECTIVE COMICS 411. Batman faces The League Of Assassins for the third time.
FANTASTIC FOUR 111. The Thing runs amok for the third time (Can Stan think of any new twists to the plot? That is the question!
THE FLASH 206. Plus an Elongated Man back feature??
HOUSE OF MYSTERY 192. MONSTERS ON THE PROWL 11.
IRON MAN 39. Now that Tony Stark is dependant on his chestplate again what will happen to the armored avenger?
JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA 89. More of the Batman-Black Canary-Green Arrow love triangle.
LOIS LANE 110. The Thorn faces ghosts in the second part of her first two-parter.
MARVEL SUPER-HEROES 31. Daredevil versus Spider-Man! Iron Man versus The Titanium Man! And a special bonus.
MARVEL TALES 31. Concluding The DD-Spider-Man fight. Also another surprise bonus.
MISTER MIRACLE 2. The war against Darksied continues.
OUR FIGHTING FORCES. Gunner & Sarge, Capt Storm, Johnny Cloud -- The Losers!
PHANTOM STRANGER 13. Len Wein takes over the scripting with this ish.
SPECIAL MARVEL EDITION 3. Thor versus The Absorbing Man, The Demon, and presenting Hercules! Plus several Tales Of Asgard.
SPIDER-MAN 97. More of Spidey's non-code adventures.
STRANGE ADVENTURES 230. Adam Strange at his greatest. Also The Atomic Knights fighting the "Threat Of The Witch Woman". Plus sf bonuses.
SUB-MARINER 39. Gil Kane takes over the art with this issue.
SUPERBOY 174. More adventures of The Legion Of Super-Heroes.
SUPERMAN 237. The New Superman in "The Doom Of Lois Lane".
TEEN TITANS 33. A strange alternate Earth appears with many strange twists. A cover-featured shock was also promised.
THOR 189. Concluding at last the strange saga of the World Beyond.

WONDER WOMAN 194. The Prisoner!
WORLD'S FINEST COMICS 202. The Superman-Batman team together again!
X-MEN 70. The Menace Of Magneto. And The Stranger!

n e w s n o t e s

national

(c) 1971 National Periodicals, Inc.

Aquaman is cancelled. Number 56 was the last issue. He will star in an annual collection of his stories from the early 50s. Also featured in that issue (edited at this very moment) by Steve Skeates is a two-page text story involving Aquaman and Green Arrow that was planned for 57.

Strange Adventures may feature The Knights Of The Galaxy when Atomic Knights reprints run out (after 231). Another good feature would be Space Ranger but I don't think he's being considered.

After the current Superman-Batman team-up in World's Finest Batman will be absent for at least three issues. His place will be taken by Aquaman and then Wonder Woman. Further characters are as yet indefinate.

The black & white Kirby books will be coming out around June. Jack will be doing some or all of the art. These books will definately be non-code.

After the issue of DC Special shown at the left no other sword & sorcery mags are planned for the time being. Joe Kubert put 12 together from The Brave & The Bold.

Deadman may be revived (again) but there is less than no chance that Metamorpho will ever see daylight again. The last 17 issues of his mag bombed (yes, I know there were only 17) and the B & B Giant which featured one of his stories didn't do too well either.

marvel

The team that produces Marvel's latest blockbuster, Kull The Conqueror, will change for the second ish. Thomas will still handle the script but the art credits will read: Breakdowns by Marie Severin, Art by John Severin.

The Panther is leaving The Avengers for Africa but Cap and The Falcon will drop over every now and then.

John Romita has left Spider-Man to draw Captain America indefinately.

Sal Buscema has been taken off the inking of Conan so he may spend more time on The Avengers, possibly inking his own work. Giacoia will replace him on Conan for one ish and then Adkins may take over.

Giacoia will replace Romita as Spider-Man's inker.

Monsters On The Prowl and Creatures On The Loose will feature one new story each ish with several good ones lined up. Examples are a few Bill Everett's, a Kane-Wrightson-Thomas s & s story.

(c) 1971 National Periodicals

last minute

Bat Lash will take over Outlaw's spot in All Star Western starting with number 6, the next issue.

Andru & Espisito will be working almost exclusively for Skywald.

AMDOM

ORUM

by Paul Levitz

In the last year comic fandom has gained a lot and lost a lot. We have seen the passing of many major zines with no notable replacements as yet. On the plus side of our ledger we have seen the publication of four valuable guides and the promise of four more.

The Comic Reader, which has been around a very long time now seems to have indefinately stopped publication. Newfangles has announced that its December, 1971 issue will be its last. Alter Ego comes out extremely rarely. The Panelologist is not being continued per say, even though Jerry Bails is using its title as a vehicile for future projects.

We have gained the first of four volumes of The Steranko History Of The Comics, a promising if not complete idea. Jerry Bails has brought forth The First Heroic Age, an encyclopeadia of comics, and has aided Bob Overstreet in the publishing of our first Price Guide, a long awaited book. He is now working on a monumental Who's Who' project. And Jerry Sinkovec gave us the Complete Marvel Checklist. The worst trouble with that volume was the low number of copies printed.

Fandom seems to be moving into a new stage, the era of the professional fan. With the coming of The Academy Of The Comic Book Arts and the dawning of an era of sword & sorcery I have great hopes for the 70s. Now we must all try to be more professional in our every effort. We have had that in mind when he brought out Etcetera. This collumn will run in every issue and I hope that readers will send me news of cons other fan happenings.

CON NEWS ITEMS

Plans for the annual NY Con have begun. Friday July 2-Monday July 5 at the Statler Hilton as usual. Membership-$3.50, Supporting - $1.50. Details are available from:

Phil Seuling
2883 W 12 St
B'klyn, NY
11224

COMMENTARY:

The Code No More

by Paul Kupperberg

By now, you have probably all seen Marvel's new mag, Savage Tales. And if you haven't you are missing the dawn of a new era. You probably know that ST is a non-code book. The stories show the lack of code and it's a refreshing change.

The stories were chock full of sex and violence. It brought back memories of the old EGs in the 50s. Let's hope that Dr Wertham has mellowed with age.

This was Marvel's first non-coded book (well actually Spider-Man Spectacular 1 was first but that doesn't count). And speaking of Spidey, If you saw 96 of his mag you'll notice the conspicuous abscence of the code stamp in the corner. Why, you may say did they do that? Was it just an oversight? Unlikely.

A better theory is arrived at when you take a glance at pages ten to fourteen. They all have to do with drug addiction. Probably the code authority rejected it, but, being the type of editor that he is Stan Lee just went ahead with it. The next few issues will also be non-code.

Oh yes, it's worth mentioning that DC will not be too far behind in the new codeless shtick. They have a whole new line of xxx slicks planned, the first one coming out in the early summer.

There is only one real type of story where the lack of code is truly appreciated, and that is sword & sorcery. To be bogged down by the code ruins the true meaning of a S&S story. How can any self-respecting editor condemn Conan to be printed under such restrictions.as the code provides.

As seen in ST, the quality of Conan was greatly improved by no code to hold it down. It showed the true greatness of the Howard story it was based on.

Well, the code is beginning to go, and we pray that when it is gone, it will never rear its prudish head again.

9:59 A.M., A FRENZIED LAD RUNS DOWN THE LAST STREET OF [illegible]. HIS GOAL? -- THE 10:00 OPENING OF...

THE HAUNTED BOOKSHOP

by Levitz & Kupperberg

Brooklyn, New York -- The outer edge of civilization. We have but a single old comic shop here, and in it you may run into anyone from Gray Morrow to Phil Seuling. In fact, you frequently do. Here also you may meet the ghosts of comic fans past. This then is the Haunted Bookshop, one of many, yet all alone.

When you pass the store on the street you are lured in by the odor of musty old magazines. As you pass between the twin windows you feel the eyes of Superman gazing down on you from his perch on the poster-size cover of Action Comics 1. Then you duck down to dodge Daredevil's boomerang, thrown from the cover of Silver Streak comics. As you enter the shop, judgement is passed upon you by eight modern Marvel heroes, from their vantage point above the door.

You enter and shiver in the presence of the ghosts who haunt (and incidentally manage) the store. You are lured to the right by the beautiful old comics in the showcase that serves as their over-crowded counter. Typical of these are jewels such as All Star Comics, Marvel Mystery Comics, Planet Stories, and many piles of other treasures.

Then you recoil in shock as you see the boxes upon boxes overflowing with great issues behind it. As you thumb thru these prizes spellbound, Dottie gently asks you if you need any help. You reply no, for you have already found the single ancient issue that you need. You begin to walk towards the rear of the store.

As you weave your way back you pass the many bins of modern comics that cost no more than cover price; you dodge the bookcases full of magazines of all types; then Ruby emerges from the mysterious back room!

Only the initiated may enter that vast storehouse of back issues and unique goingson. Very few have emerged from that room unchanged, and none have ever been able to tell of their experiences.

As you leave, your business concluded, you notice the walls for the first time with thousands of paperbacks stacked neatly and alphabetically on their shelves.

Once again outside, you can at last take a deep breath of fresh air, and heave a sigh of relief that you were able to escape the enchantment of...

MY FRIEND'S BOOK SHOP
1168 FLATBUSH AVENUE
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

no mail orders accepted

NOTE: We need you to write articles for this page. Please send them in. Any style of writing is acceptable.

REVIEWS - Continued from page 1 =6=
that Jack has turned out on all three mags.

And last, but so far the best, is Mr. Miracle. Scott Free is the star of this one (stupid names abound in all four). The hero is not only a wee bit athletically inclined but he also has a bag of super trick devices. Knowing Jack's current trend I'll bet that he comes from New Genesis and will end up fighting Darkseid along with Orion and The Infinity Man.

O yes, I have so far failed to mention Mr. Vince Colletta who has done a terrific job inking what he has been given.

I recommend buying all four of these mags, if only because man with this level of talent can't go on producing this level of junk for long (I hope!).

Paul Kupperberg

Thanks for the Sub
CR

* NEXT ISH ON SALE: MARCH 20. 1971. ~~Beginning a four part (12 pg) interview with Jack Kirby!~~

The number in the upper righthand corner is the last ish of your sub. C=lifetime complem.

NEXT ISH - 8 PAGES
THIS ISH WAS ON SALE 2/20

ETCETERA

393 East 58th Street
Brooklyn, New York
11203

FIRST CLASS MAIL!